WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) congratulated schools throughout Maryland for being designated by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan with a National Blue Ribbon Award. Whitehall Elementary School in Prince George's County and Father Andrew White S.J. School in St. Mary's County were Fifth District schools awarded the Blue Ribbon Award.

"Congratulations to Whitehall Elementary School, Father Andrew White S.J. School, and all of the Maryland schools awarded the Blue Ribbon Award today," **stated Congressman Hoyer**. "Thanks to Maryland's strong commitment to education, our schools are leading the nation. I applaud the hard work and dedication of our students, teachers, and administrators, and remain committed to investing in our schools so that Maryland students continue to excel."

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private schools that are academically superior or have shown dramatic improvement in student achievement to high levels. Other Maryland schools designated with the Blue Ribbon Award include:

- Crofton Meadows Elementary School in Anne Arundel County
- Notre Dame Preparatory School in Baltimore County
- Pocomoke Elementary School in Worcester County
- Rachel Carson Elementary School in Montgomery County
- Ring Factory Elementary School Harford County

-	St. Augus	tine School	l in Howard	County
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- Saint Pete's School in Montgomery County
- Woodholme Elementary School in Baltimore County

For more information on the Blue Ribbon School program, click here.